

Application Serial No.: 09/384,371

Attorney Docket No. 042846-0312827

In Response to Office Action mailed October 4, 2004

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed October 4, 2004, claims 8, 15, and 22 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled or newly added. Therefore, claims 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29-34 remain pending. Support for the instant amendments is provided throughout the as-filed Specification. Thus, no new matter has been added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following comments, allowance of all the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 8, 15 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. In particular, the Examiner alleges that the claimed feature of “*performing a logical operation between the bit masks*” is not described in the Specification so as to enable one skilled in the art to make or use it.

Although Applicants disagree with the rejection set forth by the Examiner and assert that the claims are enabled and allowable as written, claims 8, 15, and 22 have been amended (solely in an effort to expedite prosecution) to further clarify the claim element identified by the Examiner. As such, withdrawal of this rejection is earnestly sought.

Application Serial No.: 09/384,371

Attorney Docket No. 042846-0312827

In Response to Office Action mailed October 4, 2004

CONCLUSION

Having addressed the foregoing rejection, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Date: January 4, 2005

Respectfully submitted

By:

for:


Rick A. Toering
Registration No. 43,195

Reg. No. 47,429

Customer No. 00909

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, Virginia 22102
Main: 703-905-2000
Direct Dial: 703-905-2120
Fax: 703-905-2500